

University of Michigan.

~~Observatory~~

Ann Arbor, July 22 1878

Dear Sir

I had the honor to receive your letter of the 29th of March in reference to the proposed statue of the illustrious Le Verrier; and I have called the attention of American astronomers to the propriety of our contributing for that purpose. I shall in due time forward to you my own subscription together with others which will be transmitted through me.

I shall take great pleasure in cooperating in any way in my power to render homage to the illustrious astronomer who was my friend and counsellor & whom I had hoped to greet yet many times ere he should be called away.

I have the honor to be

Very truly

Yours truly
M. F. Fagan Paris

James C. Watson

DSI

DSI

University of Michigan.

Observatory

Ann Arbor,

Aug 14 1878

My dear Colleagues

During the recent total eclipse of the sun I devoted myself exclusively to the search for an intra-Mercurial planet, and I have the pleasure to inform you that my efforts were rewarded with success.

In order to avoid the possibility of error from wrong circle readings, in case the planet should be found, I placed on the circles of the telescope discs of card-board, and, by means of a pointer, the pointings of the instrument could be marked, both in right ascension and in declination

Before and after the total phase the positions of the sun were thus marked on these paper circles and thus the observations are referred directly to the sun.

In the course of the search I came across a star of the 4th magnitude, which shone with a ruddy light and showed a perceptible disc although the power used was only 45. Its position I marked on the paper circles, and afterwards verified it again. I noticed further that there was no appearance of an elongation such as would be expected if it were a comet in that position with respect to the sun. Hence I feel warranted in considering it to be the planet whose existence M. Leverrier

had predicted.

Since my return to Am Arbor I have mounted the circles used on a graduated circle, and I have read off the positions marked. I am thus enabled to give the place of the planet with considerable accuracy. The result which I have thus derived is as follows:

Washington Mean Time	Planet's apparent R. A.	Dec.
1878 July 29 5 ^h 16 ^m	8 ^h 26 ^m 54 ^s	+18° 16'

The details of the observations I shall take pleasure in sending to you hereafter; meanwhile I have the honor to be

Yours Very Truly

James C. Watson

M. Fizeau
Pres. Academy of Sciences
&c &c

Paris
France

HATSON, James
Astronomer

Two A. L. S. dated July 22,
1878 and Aug. 14, 1878
Regarding a statue of
Le Verrier